

exceptions in said section eleven, chapter seven hundred and twenty-nine, Laws one thousand nine hundred and one: *Provided*, roads not used very extensively may be reduced to eighteen feet in width.

Proviso:
reductions.

SEC. 7. That all telephone or telegraph poles or other poles permitted along the public roads shall be placed under the direction of the supervisor or superintendent, subject to the approval of the commissioners, so as not to interfere with the proper working, repairing or improving the said roads, and all poles otherwise placed or standing shall be removed by the person or company owning or having charge of the same.

Telephone and
telegraph poles.

SEC. 8. That any trees, bushes or hedges, except such as are planted or preserved for fruit, ornament or shade, within fifteen feet of either side ditch of a public road, may be cut and removed by the superintendent or supervisor, or under their direction, when in their opinion such removal of trees, bushes or hedges, would materially improve the condition of the road: *Provided*, if the consent of the owner can not be obtained for such removal, then the approval of the board of commissioners shall first be obtained, and if the owner of such trees, bushes or hedges shall claim any damages, he shall present his claim to the commissioners within sixty days, and if not approved by the commissioners, the amount of damages shall be ascertained by not more than three disinterested freeholders appointed by the commissioners, from whose award either party may appeal to the superior court within thirty days after the regular meeting of the commissioners to which a report of such award may be made and acted upon: *Provided*, the party appealing shall within the said thirty days give bond in the sum of two hundred dollars to secure the costs.

Removal of trees,
bushes and hedges.

Proviso: approval
of commissioners.

Claims for
damages.

Settlement of
damages.

Right of appeal.

Proviso: bond on
appeal.

SEC. 9. That any person or corporation violating any of the provisions of this act, or any person or corporation failing or refusing to perform any duty required of them by virtue of this act, except where some other penalty is provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be fined not exceeding fifty dollars or be imprisoned not exceeding thirty days.

Violation of act or
failure of duty a
misdemeanor.

Punishment.

SEC. 10. That the board of commissioners are authorized to contribute, in their discretion, an equitable portion of the road funds from taxes in any township to the improvement of roads through towns in such township.

Roads through
towns.

SEC. 11. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed so far as they may be applicable to Catawba County or any township thereof: *Provided*, nothing herein shall prevent collection and expenditure of any taxes heretofore levied for road purposes, or in any way impair any obligation incurred by the commissioners of said county or any right or obligation due the county or any township, or affect any forfeiture or penalty incurred.

Repealing clause.

Proviso: taxes
heretofore levied
and obligations
incurred.

SEC. 12. That chapter four hundred and fifty-four, Public Laws of